The New-York Times.

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LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

INTERESTING FROM WASHINGTON.

Close of the Debate in the Senate on the Pacific Railroad Bill.

Important and Animated Debate in the House Relative to the Africans of the Slaver Echo.

The Colonization Society Appropriation Stricken Out in Committee.

BEAR LOCK ON THE TARIFF QUESTION.

Confirmation of the Revenue Laws—Transportation of the Mails from the Atlantic to the Pacific—Judge Lewis—Move Indian Treaties, &c.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

The Committee of Ways and Means are again laboriously divided on the Tariff question. They are brought to a deadlock, and are unable to secure a majority for any proposition whatever. The Chairman, Mr. PHELPS, and counsel at the Treasury Department to-night with Secretary CASS and the principle revenue clerks, for another effort to arrange a scheme to dispirate the Committee.

The Committee on Commerce to-day agreed to recommend the appointment of a Commission of three experts to examine the recently-adopted bill for the confirmation of the Revenue laws, to decide whether it is the best measure that can be devised for its purpose, and if not, to frame another. Their report, in either case, is to be submitted to Congress for ratification by law.

Judge LEWIS, whose case is before the Judiciary Committee on a demand for his impeachment, is here. He will probably resign.

The bill reported to-day from the House Committee on Post Routes, provides:

1. Contracts to be made with parties giving good security, for a weekly mail from New-York, via Panama, to San Francisco and Astoria, on—half of which mail to be conveyed over the Nicaragua route, when that is open, but with no increase of expense. Also a weekly service, via Tehuantepec, from New-Orleans to Acapulco. Contracts with the New-York line must provide for taking these mails from Acapulco.

2. The pay for the New-York and San Francisco lines must not exceed $350,000 per annum, or $1 10 per mile, including land and water transportation. The present average is $2 60 per mile.

3. The pay for the New-Orleans and Tehuantepec line is limited to $100,000.

The bill reduces the aggregate expenses $100,000.

The Indian Office is in receipt of dispatches from Minnesota, stating that hostilities are again threatened by the Sioux and Yanston Indians. Prompt steps have been taken by Commissioner DENVER to meet any emergency.

[FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTERS.]

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

The House Committee on Ways and Means had a protracted and animated meeting this morning on the subject of the tariff. Mr. PHELPS, of Missouri, had before them a bill framed in accordance with the suggestions of the Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. MORRIS, of Illinois, presented one, supported by the two other opposition members. Mr. HOWARD, of Michigan, and Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, containing principally specific duties, compounded and mixed with ad valorem rates. Mr. FLORENCE, of Pennsylvania, introduced a bill based on the tariff of 1846, with a short list of specific duties, and retaining the principal part of the free list of the (Act of 1857. Neither of these projects seems to be acceptable to a majority of the Committee. Messrs. LETCHER, DUNCAN and CRAWFORD being opposed to any change of the tariff at this time, as less than a majority cannot make a formal report the probability is that nothing on this subject will be reported from the Committee this session. The above-named bills may, however, be brought in the House, by courtesy, with the view of obtaining a decision on their separate merits. The Committee have decided they will report no local bill except with a revision of the tariff attached, and have fixed that amount at twenty-five millions, to fund the treasury notes and pay the interest thereon—the loan to be payable a pleasure after the years and before six. All parties are in a quandary about the tariff. It seems to be understood that the Republicans and Pennsylvania Democrats generally will support specific duties, but the majority of the Democrats, rather than do this, will let the tariff stand as it is, even if they have to come to direct taxation to support the Government. Such, at least, is the report of gentlemen who have given close attention to the subject. The result may be the passage of a twenty-five million loan bill, and nothing more, for the relief of the Government during the next fiscal year.

The cost of the *Coast Survey* for the thirteen years ending with 1856 was $2,716,000, and for the half-year of 1857 it was $230,000, making a total, added to the facilities furnished by the navy, of $4,247,000.

Our Washington Correspondence.

NEW FILIBUSTER MOVEMENTS—THE CUBAN QUESTION—THE DOUGLAS AND FITCH AFFAIR—SAUNDERS, TUCKER, AND YOUNG AMERICA GENERALLY.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Jan. 25, 1859.

This city of sand, wind, and Buncombe, which regulates the temporal affairs of over thirty millions of people, is now replete with representative men; not only the duly elected honored talkers on Government, but all grades of the unsanctified and powerful for mischief classes seem to have poured in during the past week; and there is a fair prospect that we shall have a lively time. The leading filibusters are about converting their swords to pruning hooks and organizing an expedition to Arizona, where (it is credibly stated) silver and gold occur in inexhaustible quantities, under a soil of unsurpassed richness. Nearly all the leading spirits of the former Cuban and Isthmus expeditions, from HENNINGSEN down, are to join this exodus. The Administration having taken upon itself the task of re-annexing Cuba—washed off from the Florida coast in some former age—like monarchs out of business these restless spirits are about to seek in agriculture and mining a repose of the mind. When their energies shall have been restored, we may look for a further *anabasis* towards the Mexican Mecca, where they will smoke the final pipe of peace, and take a "hasty plate of soup" in the halls of the Montezumas. Colonel SAM COX has invested in real estate in Arizona, and is said to encourage the emigration. Then we have a strong representation of the newly opened Slave-trade interest, which delegation is prepared not only to show the absolute humanity of that commerce, but boldly asserts that the English Government itself, in view of the degraded state of the West Indian negroes, are prepared to withdraw their fleet from the African Coast, where it is now kept only from a supposed opposition of the English people to this mode of involuntary emigration. When the Jamaica negro has attained the social rank of cannibal, they assert that the *Gore Plazzas of Liverpool* will again be a market for cargoes of this "lively" character, in transitu. One thing is positively certain, that more than one cargo of slaves has been landed on the South during the past year.

The recent passage at words in the Senate has called in a column of small pica, such being the fashion of the day in these piping days of peace. In the words of an old play:

"Nobody's surname, and nobody lied."

But the Little Giant has lost caste with the fighting men, and he looks thoroughly disturbed.

The annexation of Cuba project is looked upon as visionary in the present form, as there is no probability that the Spanish Cortes will accede to the sale of the ever faithful Isle. Had the great Spanish character, SALAMANCA, been intrusted with a few millions in advance to give the matter a proper introduction at the gambling table of Isaacs and Fournine of Rome and Opera, the thing might perhaps have had a charm—but the President's Message at Madrid was like a wet dog in a parlor to the Spaniards—and his election was a perfect failure in every respect.

We shall, I trust, have, ere long, (apparently, perhaps) a disturbance in Europe, and the manly and youth of Cuba shall be returned to the Continent from which they came.

The original energies of the *Democratic Review* in the days of the Pierce campaign, whole regiments of New-York, Kentucky, Kansas and Mississippi delegates are seen to issue from GADSBY SAUNDERS' subterranean apartments at the National—and Rev. TYLER, if one may venture on such familiarity now, is receiving the congratulations of his friends and the family politicians who have discovered that a resolute, reckless and brave man is a good thing to introduce into a sedate, obstructive, conservative mass. Despite the offence of duelling, I never knew an outstanding Young America to be arrested, and it seems to be understood that no man who is wielding destruction of what is technically called "heart," shall be restricted by the formidable hand of writers, lobbyers, claim-agents, pensioners, &c., &c., of the Gentle School. From Friday evening, when a party of some 200 to 300 wags assembled at GUTHRY to quite night terrible, down to the present hour of writing, there has been a sort of excursion-train discharge of salt, short, fat, lean, queer, smooth, dry, ardent, frank, manly, sinister, hungry, thirsty-looking citizens, who have each and all entered the spacious doors of the representatives of Tammany and the Democratic Reserve. If Charleston expects to hold all the Conventions it must spread itself. There never was a finer time for young ladies to come to Washington—for young literary men—poets of the *Evening Mirror* type—filibusters, with revolvers in their belts, fire in their eye, and in their pockets ribbon to the silver-prick backs of Arizona. Whenever allowed but one lady to each plate twenty-test long, and one cold-eating, last by her inadvertence he should lose twenty boarders.

Yours truly, FELIX.

PRESIDENTIAL—ARIZONA—THE DEBATE ON CUBA IN THE SPANISH CORTES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Jan. 25, 1859.

The correspondence between FITCH and DOUGLAS, published in this morning's *Union*, has produced a painful impression amongst the friends of the latter gentleman. It is conceded that the cunning and heartless constancy of the Indiana Senator has superseded the original insult by placing Mr. DOUGLAS in a position where he seems to accept the duelling code. And yet does not request a cross affront with the determination which the case would warrant. Mr. FITCH has well repaid the Administration for the part taken by it in the Indiana joggle. Should the success of this stratagem put DOUGLAS out of the way, as it is contended it will, the next candidate who comes up for slaughter is HUNTER, of Virginia. Doubtless in the next few months there will have to be many men brought forward, and just as many killed off, before the managers of the real winning man will think it safe to put him on the track. The friends of SUMNER are working vigorously but in secret, and whether he is intended merely to "stop a ball" or be kept safe from harm and carried to victory on the wheels of the well-oiled machinery, the future must decide. The two BROWNS are also much spoken of, and SEWARD, of Georgia, is not without hopes, which he seconds by untiring assiduity.

It would seem that the filibusters are now really directing their attention to Arizona, and that Col. COLT, of Hartford, is investing a large capital there in the purchase of land and mining privileges. His brother-in-law has gone out as his agent, and in a very few weeks we may expect some startling accounts of mineral wealth. It is rumored here that several large prairies in Arizona are covered to the depth of a foot and a-half with fine powdered silver, so white as to have been mistaken for snow by many travelers; and that in no less than five different valleys this same silver ore is found in the shape and size of finely-developed fire-proof *bricks*, requiring no other labor than that of the muleteer to be brought into market as bullion. In some incredulous circles, however, these reports do not find implicit belief.

The debate in the Spanish Cortes has produced a marked impression, and it is believed that many Southern men will oppose the acquisition of Cuba, unless the Slave-trade with Africa shall have been previously legalized. At present there is a large and flourishing slave business, of which Cuba is the depôt; and this would be interfered with by annexation, if we had an Executive honestly in favor of prohibiting the importation of new negroes. As things are, the native-born Spanish-speaking Cuban slaves are exported to Louisiana and the cotton-growing States, while their places are amply supplied and at an enormous profit by constant importations direct from the Congo Coast. This is made no secret here, but talked of in certain circles as freely as any other point of commercial intelligence.

J. M.

XXXVth Congress—Second Session.

SENATE.... WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

A joint resolution was introduced asking for twenty days' extension of the Legislature of Kansas. Referred to the Committee on Territories.

Mr. HAMLIN presented the credentials of Mr. FESSENDEN as Senator from Maine for six years from March next.

Mr. EWARD made a motion to admit Messrs. LANE and MACARTY, claiming to be Senators from Indiana, to the privilege of admission on the floor pending the decision upon their claims.

Mr. TRUMBULL spoke earnestly in favor of the admission, and hoped this act of courtesy would be extended without discussion. A refusal would be disrespectful to the State of Indiana.

The question being put whether to take up the resolution, the noes had it; whereupon Mr. IVERSON suggested that it be taken up, and voted to lie on the table, to prevent its coming up again daily until the end of the session.

An animated debate ensued.

Mr. MASON moved to lay the subject on the table.

Mr. SEWARD, in reference to Mr. IVERSON's remark, said the Senator from Georgia knew him sufficiently well to know that he (SEWARD) was the last man to appeal by factious opposition from any well-matured decision of the Senate. The question was to grant to two gentlemen claiming to be Senators from Indiana, the privilege to stand behind the backs of the two persons who occupy the chairs which they claim to be their own. He had seen the Hungarian patriot, foreign ministers, and multitudes of others given the poor privilege of standing room on the floor, while gentlemen claiming to be Senators, and whom the Judiciary Committee may at any moment report to be the veritable Senators, are refused the number of square feet they would occupy.

Mr. BAYARD, of Delaware, spoke against the admission.

The discussion having reopened the parallel case of CLAYBORNE and CILSON in the twenty-fifth Congress, Messrs. BELL and DAVIS discussed that subject, the former in a tone of favor of, and the latter in opposition to, admission to the Indian claimants. Finally, the resolution was laid on the table. Ayes, 31; Noes, 72; Messrs. BRIGHT and FITCH not voting.

The Pacific Railroad bill was taken up.

Mr. WILSON's amendment, of which the main features are a Board of Rye Civil Engineers to locate the line between the thirty fourth and forty-second parallels, was lost. Ayes, 13; Noes, 32.

Mr. DAVIS's amendment, being his substitute proposed by the minority of the Committee, then recurred and was lost—Ayes 16; Noes 28.

Mr. PUGH's amendment that the Railroad stop at the Eastern boundary of California was also lost. Ayes 25; Noes 28.

A point of order then arose. Yesterday, in Executive session, some subject was made the special order for to-day at 2 P. M. The galleries were accordingly cleared to discuss whether they would rescind the said order or continue the discussion of the Pacific Railroad bill.

On the reopening of the doors, the discussion on the Pacific Railroad bill was resumed.

Mr. BELL spoke on the bill.

Various amendments, including the one introduced by Mr. RICE for the Northern route, were voted on and lost.

Mr. HARLAN moved to lay the bill on the table, which was also lost, by Ayes 21, Nays 26.

All the amendments being now disposed of, to-morrow at 1 o'clock is appointed for a vote on the final passage of the bill. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

Mr. CRAIG, of Missouri, from the Committee on the Post-Office, reported a bill providing for the transportation of the mails from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast.

Mr. ENGLISH, of Indiana, from the same Committee, reported a substitute therefor.

Mr. CLARK, of New-York, from the Committee on Judiciary, made an adverse report on the bill to amend the act establishing the Court of Claims, so as to permit creditors to sue the Government. On motion of Mr. GROW, the report was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. CHAPMAN, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported a bill punishing the forging and counterfeiting of military bounty land warrants, certificates of location or purchase, etc., or knowingly uttering or circulating the same, by a punishment of not less than three nor more than ten years in the Penitentiary.

Mr. CHAPMAN called attention to the importance of the bill, saying that it had received the unanimous approbation of the Committee on Judiciary. There is not a statute at this time to punish such offences, although there is for forging Treasury notes.

The bill was passed.

Mr. WHITELEY, of Delaware, from the Committee on Agriculture, reported joint resolutions, declaring that it is the duty of the Government to use all its constitutional, diplomatic and commercial powers to procure from foreign Governments a modification of their system of revenue in respect to American tobacco, with a view to the removal of the present restrictions; and that instructions ought to be given by the Executive to our consular and commercial agents that such desirable result may be produced.

Mr. GARNETT, of Virginia, objected to that portion of the resolutions which in his opinion looked to retaliatory duties.

Mr. WHITELEY replied that there was no such intention.

Mr. MORRIS, of Pennsylvania, wished American iron and other products included in the proposed protection. The resolutions proposed special protection to tobacco only.

Mr. STEPHENS, of Georgia, did not see anything like protection in the resolutions, which merely contemplated the removal of restrictions.

The resolutions were passed.

Mr. KERSEY, of New-York, introduced the Homestead bill, which was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. GROW, of Pennsylvania, said a similar bill had twice passed the House, and had as often been defeated in the Senate. As the subject had been debated for the last eight years, he now merely wished to remind gentlemen that the Government should be brought back to the sound principle of legislation laid down by General JACKSON, that the public land should cease to be a source of revenue, and be set apart for the homes of actual settlers. He trusted Congress would sanction this principle and put an end to speculation and land monopoly. The latter has been tried in the Old World and its evils are evident in the woes of the people. The division of humanity and civilization require the public lands to be disposed of in such a way as will best promote the general welfare and alleviate and remove the human race. He gave notice that he would, to-morrow week, ask a vote, and in this there seemed to be a general acquiescence.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union on the Consular and Diplomatic bill.

The Committee rejected the pending Schenck, which was to the effect that no money shall be expended in support and for the education of the recaptured Africans.

Mr. CRAWFORD, of Georgia, offered an amendment reducing the proposed $75,000 to enable the President to carry out the law of 1819, to $15,000. He commented that the President had no authority to contract with the American Colonization Society for the extradition and the support of the Africans of the Echo.

Mr. STEWART of Maryland, said if it was necessary in carrying out the act of 1819 to stipulate for their education and support, no objection should be made to the contract entered into by the President. The South make wars on the President for enforcing the Fugitive Slave Law, and if the President enforces the law for the suppression of the Slave-trade, the South make war on him. He was opposed to this nitedom.

Mr. MASON, of Virginia, expressed his surprise at the remarks he had listened to by gentlemen who believed that to condemn the Slave-trade is to reproach Slavery. He did not know what else the President could have done relative to the recaptured Africans.

Mr. CASE, of Indiana, said he could not see how they could, consistently, vote money to educate these Africans in Liberia, when the education of negroes in the Slave States is made a criminal offence. Talk about the horrors of the middle passage—he had read an advertisement of a runaway, right under our immediate view, who, it was stated, could be identified by his scarred hands and back. Hence, for the sake of consistency, they should strike out the provision of the bill now under consideration.

Mr. KNOX, of South Carolina, in reply to Mr. MASON, said that Southern gentlemen had merely protested against this Government, full mounted on an Anti-Slavery sentiment, riding down the restrictions of law. The President had no right to make a contract for the support and maintenance of the negroes of the *Echo*. The charity of this Government had been prostituted to upholding the Colonization Society, which sprung from a spurious sentimentality in a single night, and which receives its support from old maids and dilapidated politicians, who colonize negroes from a maudlin humanity. This is what the President had done.

Mr. BOCOCK, of South Carolina, proposed and advocated an amendment, confining the appropriation to the act of 1819, and striking out the words "and any subsequent acts now in force."

Mr. SEWARD, of Georgia, looked on the laws for the prevention and suppression of the Slave-trade as in violation of the Constitution. He wanted Georgia and the other Southern States to settle the matter for themselves.

Mr. BARKSDALE, of Mississippi, indorsed Mr. SEWARD'S remarks, but regarded this discussion as out of place.

Mr. BURNETT, of Kentucky, had listened with surprise and regret to the discussion on the subject of reopening the Slave-trade. He regarded it unfortunate for his section of the country, in the name of which he entered his protest against these proceedings, as calculated to place it in a false position. When the time comes to solve the problem, then will be the time for Southern gentlemen to move in this matter. He thought the law of 1819 conferred on the President the power to do what he had done in reference to the negroes of the *Echo*.

Mr. SINGLETON, of Mississippi, complained of a forced construction being given to the law. Suppose there should be a Black Republican President, his partisans would carry out the precedent now sought to be set, and take money out of the Treasury to an unlimited amount for similar purposes. Will the Democratic Party put a construction on the law which will operate against us in the future? The safety of the South—it being in the minority—depends on a strict construction of the Constitution.

Mr. HUGHES, of Indiana, had listened with interest, but not without surprise and regret, to this discussion.

Mr. GARNETT, of Georgia, vainly appealed to gentlemen to take a vote and dispose of this bill.

Mr. JOHN COCHRANE, of New-York, said the debate was more exciting than instructive. He fully agreed with the gentlemen on his side of the house, that if the question proposed be candidly and manfully met, it should be made on the issue whether the Slave-trade should be prohibited or permitted, and not in a debate, collaterally, on the phraseology of an appropriation bill. The question now is, whether under existing laws certain acts have been performed honestly and in good faith by the President, and whether the Representatives of the people will declare the appropriation should be made to defray the expenses incurred by the Administration. No person is here to pronounce on any other point than this. As to the Slave-trade coming from the North, he would be ready at the proper time fairly and manfully to take his position when the issue is raised.

Mr. GROESBECK, of Ohio, said he did not require the postponement of the issue. He was ready to meet it now. It was more likely that an act would be passed for the more faithful execution of the present laws than that those on the statute book be repealed. He expressed regret at the occurrence of this debate, and that a humane act on the part of the President had met with such stern objection. He approved everything the President had done in the premises. This country would have considered it cruel if these Africans had been turned adrift and unprovided for on the shores of Africa. He, as a Democrat, thanked the President—he thanked him for his humanity in the name of the nation.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Indiana, concurred in every word Mr. GROESBECK had uttered. He had always said the Democratic Party was not a sectional party, and that the Constitution is its platform in letter and spirit. He had always and now said, if that Constitution imposed manacles on negroes, he was for it still, because it was the Constitution of his country. The Constitution does recognize by implication the duty of the suppression of the Slave-trade, and if the time should ever come, when any considerable portion of the Democratic Party shall by indirection propose to fasten and encourage that trade, the Democratic Party cannot boast that it is a national party as it now is. He was ready to meet the issue.

Mr. SINGERMAN, of Mississippi, remarked that he had expressed no opinion as to the Slave-trade.

Mr. BURNETT, of Kentucky, said that it was not the duty of States Rights Democrats and those who claim to be strict constructionists to discuss, on the pending bill, questions connected with the African Slave-trade. He yielded to no man in his adherence to the rights of the States, and would be ready to repel aggression from any quarter.

Mr. BARKSDALE, of Mississippi, was satisfied that the President, in returning the Africans of the bark *Echo*, had violated law. There was no authority for the contract he had made. Believing, however, the President acted from patriotic motives, he was not prepared to condemn him. Under proper circumstances, he should be prepared to take a position as to the reopening of the Slave-trade, and in its favor. The society of the North and South demanded efficient and faithful execution of the laws.

Mr. NICHOLS, of Ohio, said the debate on the other side afforded him much gratification, but sometimes there was too much of a good thing. If they would consent to take the vote on striking out the whole section under consideration, he believed it would be the best thing they could do.

[Loud and earnest cries for "The question."]

Mr. CLAY, of Kentucky, said that yesterday he had occasion to remark that he was opposed to all laws on the statute-book in reference to the Slave-trade. He explained that no man was more opposed to reopening it than he was, and in this he believed he was sustained by his constituents. But the present laws punishing the Slave-trade as piracy, were so severe that they could not be enforced, and other penalties might be provided. He did not believe a white man could be hanged for it, either in the South or in Boston. He was opposed to the eighth section of the treaty of Washington, as it was an entangling alliance with Great Britain, and caused outrages on the American flag. He hoped that notice would be given to Great Britain to put an end to the treaty, so that we may preserve our own police on the seas.

Mr. BUNNETT.—Are you not in favor of enforcing the laws which exist?

Mr. CLAY—I am.

Mr. MILES, of South Carolina, said he was that hideous thing, a sectional man. He stood here a Southern man, representing in part a sovereign State. They of the South cannot but be sectional, because they must be united to maintain themselves. He did not class himself in the Democratic ranks. He would unite with the Democrats where he could do so conscientiously and consistently, having reference to his State and section. When they called upon him to depart half of a hair's breadth from his principles, he would turn his back on and leave them forever. He was not only prepared to advocate the reopening of the Slave-trade, but the sweeping away of all laws which stamped his constituents as pirates, and placed a stigma on Southern institutions.

Mr. GOODE, of Massachusetts, did not regard this discussion as a waste of time, as it foreshadowed the course hereafter to be pursued in this House. It was right the people should know in advance the questions their Representatives will be called on to debate. Had the people been thus forewarned, before they elected certain men to office, there would have been a different result. The apprehension was expressed by a gentleman (Mr. SINGLETON) as to what a Republican President would do in the event of such an election. He (Mr. GOODE) would say that, in his opinion, should the Republicans succeed to power, they would give to the law the same construction which two Democratic Presidents have given to the same construction in which the Democratic Party have acquiesced for twenty years. They would not go a step further than precedent would justify, supported by the opinions of leading Democratic statesmen. The construction given by the President to the law of 1819 is the correct one.

Mr. RANSOM, of North Carolina, expressed the desire that the Committee rise. This debate was productive of more ills than the mere consummation of ideas.

The closes under consideration, on appropriation to enable the President to carry into effect the contract with the Colonization Society, etc., was stricken out, but this does not finally dispose of the subject, which will be voted on in the House.

The Committee rose, and the House adjourned.

Compensated Emancipation Convention at Albany.

ALBANY, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

The Compensated Emancipation Society held its session in this city this evening, Dr. NOTT, of Union College, presiding.

The Convention was addressed by Dr. NOTT, Bishop BURGESS, Rev. Dr. WILSON, and HENRY E. WOOD.

Resolutions were introduced embodying HENRY CLAY'S principles of compensated emancipation, and determining to raise funds to carry out the plan.

Al. M. FOWLER offered objections to the plan, on account of its immorality in principle, its injustice to the poor whites, and its impracticability.

Mr. BLANCHARD, of Ohio, inquired if the plan contemplated forcible interference with Slavery?

Mr. BURGESS replied that it did not; he defended the morality and practicability of the plan, and denounced the Abolitionists as attacking constantly the masters of the South, and neglecting to urge repentance.

Mr. FOWLER replied, defending the Abolitionists; they asked the repentance of the North. He attacked the colonization scheme, because it refused to recognize the humanity of slaves.

Dr. NOTT indorsed Mr. FOWLER'S views as to human rights pertaining to all classes. At the North all men are more or less restricted in their rights. Women and colored people were instanced in support of the Doctor's views. He had come to the Convention hoping to receive some new light on these questions, and was gratified at the debate which had taken place.

Mr. JOHN C. UNDERWOOD, of Virginia, was called on, and addressed the meeting at length. He declared himself an out-and-out Abolitionist, and in favor of immediate emancipation. He honored the benevolence of this movement, but objected to the purchase of the slaves as immoral. He gave his experience among the slaveholders of Virginia, where, he said, the present movement excited the utmost displeasure. He had never heard one of them speak favorably of the plan. He would rather claim on his part that compensation was due to the slaves and poor whites. He designated the scheme as impracticable, because slaveholders would not meet them half way. The proposition was to pay $250 each for the slaves in forty years, while the masters could put their slaves in the market now, and get from $800 to $1,500 each for them. He would rather raise the proposed one thousand millions to be devoted to the education of the poor whites. He gave encouraging accounts of the progress of emancipative, and believed it would soon be accomplished in Virginia through the organization for settling the lands there by Northern emigration. Mr. UNDERWOOD'S speech was received very favorably.

At an adjourned meeting only a dozen or so persons were present, the resolutions reported at the prior meeting were adopted, and an adjournment, *sine die*, took place.

The meeting is regarded as unfavorable to the plan of compensated emancipation.

United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

No. 55.—Chas. Belcher & Co. vs. George A. Lawrason, Collector of New-Orleans.—Argument continued for the plaintiff.

No. 56.—The United States vs. The City Bank of Columbus.—Argument commenced for plaintiff and continued for defendants.

Fire on Staten Island—Supposed at Quarantine.

SANDY HOOK, Wednesday, Jan. 26—10 P. M.

There is a fire on Staten Island, in the direction of Quarantine. The flames can be seen rising above the hills, but we cannot tell from here what is burning.

Fire in Stafford, N. Y.

LYNN, N. Y., Wednesday, Jan. 26.

The barns and out-houses of RALPH SWEETLAND, in the village of Stafford, containing four horses, two cows, and a large quantity of grain, were entirely consumed by fire last night. There was a very small insurance. The loss is not yet known.

Conviction of a Murderer.

BALTIMORE, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

PETER CORRIE, one of the murderers of Officer REDDEN, was convicted this morning of murder in the first degree.

The Expected European News.

NON-ARRIVAL OF THE ARAGO AND ARABIA.

SANDY HOOK, Wednesday, Jan. 26—11 P. M.

The steamship *Arago*, from Havre and Southampton 12th inst., is now due, but has not yet made her appearance. The weather is clear, with a light southwest wind.

HALIFAX, Wednesday, Jan. 26—11 P. M.

The Royal Mail steamship *Arabia*, from Liverpool 13th inst., is considered fully due at this port, but there are as yet no signs of her. The weather is fine and clear; wind northwest.

The Niagara Outward Bound.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Jan. 26.

The Royal Mail steamship *Niagara* sailed from here at noon to-day with 18 passengers for Halifax, and 60 for Liverpool. She takes out nearly $78,000 in specie.

Hulard's Bronze Copy of Houdon's Statue of Washington.

The State of Virginia is fortunate in possessing the only authentic perfect statue in existence of WASHINGTON. In HOUDON'S famous work which graces the State Capital at Richmond, may be seen a *fac simile* in marble of the Father of his Country, as he appeared in the later years of his life. It has every appearance of being an honest attempt to give an exact image of the great man as he walked among his compatriots; and there is abundant contemporary evidence of the success of the artist in accomplishing the object at which he aimed. The only deviation from the exact truth in this *chef d'œuvre* of portrait sculpture, is in the elevation of the head, which was given for the purpose of adapting the statue to the light in which it was to be placed. All the other statues of WASHINGTON in existence have been idealized from HOUDON'S model, and whatever other merits they may possess, are inferior to this in the resemblance they bear to the great original. A copy in bronze of HOUDON'S statue, executed by HUBARD, has been on exhibition a few days in this City at No. 323 Broadway. It was modeled and cast in Richmond, and is a most creditable work. The casting is not equal to the very best specimens of the art, and the surface has the appearance of having been rubbed a good deal and polished after it came from the moulds. But the great merit of the statue is in its fidelity to the original, and in this respect it is undoubtedly entitled to the highest consideration, and the reverential admiration of the people. In all other statues of WASHINGTON he is clad in meretricious habiliments, such as he never wore. CANOVA put upon him the trappings of a Roman warrior, GREENOUGH divested him of clothing almost entirely, and put sandals upon his feet, CRAWFORD wrapped him in a sort of nondescript mantle, and BROWN has given him the kind of dress which our mock Continentals wear on their target excursions. But the dress which HOUDON gave him was the dress which he actually wore, with the meagre epaulets and ill-made coat, the original of which may still be seen, kept like precious relics as they are, in the Patent Office in the National Capitol. The statue should be exhibited, as the artist intended, with the light falling from above, and for this reason MR. HUBARD'S copy may not give the impression of the original. To obviate this defect, where the proper light cannot be obtained, it should be placed nearly on a level with the spectator, unless the apartment be large enough for it to be viewed from the requisite distance.

Political.

The next (October) election in Iowa is quite important, and probably will be sharply contested by the Republicans and Democrats. A Legislature for two years, upon which will depend a successor to JAMES HARLAN, United States Senator, a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and three Judges of the Supreme Court are to be chosen at that time.

A Florida paper says that a new party is being organized down in the Florida swamps, to be styled "The Sons of the Soil." One of its objects is said to be to proscribe citizens of Northern birth.

The Springfield *Republican* reports that ex-President HITCHCOCK, of Amherst College, the eminent geologist, is seriously ill. He was attacked some ten days ago with the symptoms of lung fever, but on the 21st inst., his disease had assumed a complicated and threatening form, his lungs having badly congested, with pneumonic and acute inflammation of the kidneys. There was a consultation of physicians upon his case, Friday evening, and much anxiety was felt as to the termination of the illness.

THE CUBAN QUESTION.

The President's Thirty Million Project.

Mr. Slidell's Majority Report in the Senate in Favor of the Purchase and the Grant.

Mr. Seward's Exposition of the Views of the Minority.

BOTH SIDES OF THE QUESTION.

In the Senate, on the 24th inst., Mr. SLIDELL, on behalf of the majority of the Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the bill "making appropriations to authorize the acquisition of the island of Cuba, by negotiation," made the following report:

It is not considered necessary by your Committee to enlarge upon the vast importance of the acquisition of the island of Cuba by the United States. To do so would be to attempt a work of supererogation to demonstrate an elementary problem in mathematics, or one of those axioms of ethics or philosophy which have been universally received for ages. The ultimate acquisition of Cuba may be considered a fixed purpose of the United States, a purpose resulting from political and geographical necessities which have been recognized by all parties and all administrations, and in regard to which the popular voice has been expressed with a consistency unsurpassed on any question of national policy that has heretofore engaged the public mind.

The purchase and annexation of Louisiana led, as a necessary corollary, to that of Florida, and both joint with unerring certainty to the acquisition of Cuba. The sparse and feeble population of what is now the great West, called in 1803 for the free navigation of the Mississippi, and the enforcement of the right of deposit at New-Orleans. In three years not only were those privileges secured, but the whole of the magnificent domain of Louisiana was ours. Who now doubts the wisdom of a measure which at the time was denounced with a violence until then unparalleled in our political history?

From the day we acquired Louisiana the attention of our ablest statesmen was fixed on Cuba. What the possession of the mouth of the Mississippi had been to the people of the West that of Cuba became to the nation. To cast the eye upon the map was sufficient to predict its destiny. A brief reference will show the importance attached to the question by our leading statesmen, and the steadiness and perseverance with which they have endeavored to hasten the consummation of so vital a measure.

[The report here presents copious extracts from the Messages of Presidents, dispatches of Secretaries and speeches of public men, which it is not necessary to reprint. It then proceeds:]

From these and other extracts that might be presented it is manifest that *the ultimate acquisition of Cuba has long been regarded as the fixed policy of the United States*—necessarily to the progressive development of our system. All agree that the end is not only desirable but inevitable. The only difference of opinion is as to the time, mode and conditions of obtaining it.

The law of our national existence is growth. We cannot, if we would, disobey it. While we should do nothing to stimulate it unnaturally, we should be careful not to impose upon ourselves a regimen so strict as to prevent its healthful development. The tendency of the age is the expansion of the great Powers of the world. England, France, and Russia, all demonstrate the existence of this pervading principle. Their growth, it is true, only operates by the absorption, partial or total, of weaker Powers—generally, of inferior races. So long as this extension of territory is the result of geographical position, a higher civilization, and greater aptitude for government, and is not pursued in a direction to endanger our safety or impede our progress, we have neither the right nor the disposition to find fault with it. Let England pursue her march of conquest and annexation in India, France extend her dominions on the southern shores of the Mediterranean, and advance her frontiers to the Rhine, or Russia subjugate her barbarous neighbors in Asia; we shall look upon their progress, if not with favor, at least with indifference. We claim on this hemisphere the same privilege that they exercise on the other—

"Hanc veniam petimusque damusque vicissim."

In this they are but obeying the laws of their organization. When they cease to grow they will soon commence that period of decadence which is the fate of all nations as of individual man.

The question of the annexation of Cuba to the United States, we repeat, is a question but of time. The fruit that was not ripe when JOHN QUINCY ADAMS penned his dispatch to Mr. FORSYTH, (it has not yet been severed by violence from its native tree, as he anticipated,) is now mature. Shall it be plucked by a friendly hand, prepared to compensate its proprietor with a princely guardon? or shall it fall decaying to the ground?

THE THREE ALTERNATIVES.

As Spain cannot long maintain her grasp on this distant colony, there are but three possible alternatives in the future of Cuba: First, *Possession by one of the great European Powers*. This we have declared to be incompatible with our safety, and have announced to the world that any attempt to consummate it will be resisted by all the means in our power. When first we made this declaration we were comparatively feeble. The struggle would have been fearful and unequal; but we were prepared to make it at whatever hazard. That declaration has often been repeated since. With a population nearly trebled, our financial resources and our means, offensive and defensive, increased in an infinitely larger proportion, we cannot now shrink from an issue that all were then ready to meet.

The second alternative is *The Independence of the Island*. This independence could only be nominal; it never could be maintained in fact. It would eventually fall under some protectorate, open or disguised. If under *ours*, annexation would soon follow as certainly as the shadow follows the substance. An European protectorate could not be tolerated. The closet philanthropists of England and France would, as the price of their protection, insist upon introducing their schemes of emancipation. Civil and servile war would soon follow, and Cuba would present, as Hayti now does, no traces of its former prosperity, but the ruins of its once noble mansions. Its uncontrolled possession by either France or England would be less dangerous and offensive to our Southern States, than a pretended independent black empire or republic.

The third and last alternative is *Annexation to the United States*. How and when is this to be effected? By conquest or negotiation? Conquest, even without the hostile interference of another European Power than Spain, would be expensive, but, with such interference, *would probably involve the whole civilized world in war, entail upon us the interruption, if not the loss, of our foreign trade, and an expenditure far exceeding any sum which it has ever been contemplated to offer for the purchase of Cuba*. It would besides, in all probability, lead to servile insurrection, and to the great injury or even total destruction of the industry of the island. Purchase, then, by negotiation seems to be the only practicable course; and, in the opinion of the Committee, that cannot be attempted with any reasonable prospect of success, unless the President be furnished with the means which he has suggested in his annual Message, and which the bill proposes to give him.

Much has been said of the danger of confiding such powers to the Executive, and from the fierceness with which the proposition has been denounced, it might be supposed that it was without precedent. So far is this from being the case, that we have three different acts upon the statute-book, placing large sums of money at the disposition of the President for the purpose of aiding him in negotiations for the acquisition of territory. The first is the act of Feb. 26, 1803. Although its object was well known, viz: to be used in negotiating for the purchase of Louisiana, the act does not indicate it. It placed $2,000,000 unreservedly at the disposition of the President, for the purpose of defraying any "extraordinary expense which may be incurred in the intercourse between the United States and foreign nations." Second, the act of Feb. 13, 1806, using precisely the same phraseology, appropriates $2,000,000, it being understood that it was to be used in negotiating for the purchase of Florida.

The act of 3d March, 1847, "making further appropriation to bring the existing war with Mexico to a speedy and honorable conclusion," has been adopted as the model on which the present bill is framed. Its preamble states that,

"Whereas, in the adjustment of so many complicated questions as now exist between the two countries, it may possibly happen that an expenditure of money will be called for by the stipulations of any treaty which may be enter of into, therefore the sum of $2,000,000 be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, to enable the President to conclude a treaty of peace, limits, and boundaries, with the Republic of Mexico; to be used by him in the event said treaty, when signed by the authorized ag

The Latest War News.

Reported Capture of Roanoke Island by the Federal Forces.

Particulars of the Engagement.

Capture of Nearly Two Thousand Prisoners.

Flight of the Rebel Troops.

Destruction of Their Batteries and Fortifications.

Our Loss Only Thirty Killed and Wounded.

Gen. Burnside Pursuing the Enemy.

Capture of Their Gunboats.

Reported Capture of Elizabeth City.

Gen. Burnside Marching on Newbern.

Capture of Fifty Rebel Transports

GENERAL MARKETS.

FEATHERS.

Live Geese, Western, ♑ lb ..... 65 @80
Tennessee, ♑ lb ..... 50 @65

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR

Is dull, the supply greater than the demand. We quote at $3 85@3 90 ♑ 100 lbs.

HOPS.

There is a disposition to force Hops to higher figures if possible. A Hop that is bright, clean-picked, free from rust, and sound in every particular, brings 16c. to 17c. Other qualities vary from 6c.@15c. We quote:

Prime ..... 15 @16
Old Hops ..... 3 @5

SEEDS.

Bright clean clover is active, and in ready sale. Timothy is dull, with more inquiry. Flaxseed, and 144 Hungarian Grass are in fair request. We quote:

Timothy, ♑ bush ..... 1 90 @1 95
Clover, ♑ lb ..... 10½@ 11
Timothy, ♑ bush ..... 2 25@2 35
Flaxseed ..... 1 60 @1 65
Hungarian Grass ..... 1 00 @1 10

FRUITS.

The transactions in Fruit, Nuts and Lard are more limited.

Apples, ♑ bbl ..... 1 50@2 00
Prime Kegs, ♑ lb ..... 10½@
Dried Apples have been in good demand, at 10c. ♑ lb. Sales.
Peaches, ♑ lb ..... 8½@ 9
Prunes, ♑ lb ..... 8½@ 9
Currants, ♑ lb ..... 6 @ 7
Raisins, ♑ box ..... 1 75@2 00
Lard, ♑ lb ..... 8½@ 9
Almonds, ♑ lb ..... 12½@ 13
Walnuts, ♑ lb ..... 10 @ 11
Filberts, ♑ lb ..... 10 @ 11
Pecans, ♑ lb ..... 10 @ 11
Chestnuts, ♑ bush ..... 2 00@2 25

BEANS.

Prime white Beans have sold more readily. Fancy Beans, such as Red, China, and Zebra are dull. The market is well stocked, and forced sales are made at our quotations. Inferior Beans of any kind are hardly saleable. Peas are in fair demand. Marrowfats sell readily at our quotations. We quote:

Prime White Beans ..... 2 00@2 10
Medium ..... 1 90@1 95
Small Peas ..... 1 80@1 85
Marrowfats ..... 2 00@2 05
Blackeye Peas ..... 1 60@1 65

BUTTER.

Receipts light and fair inquiry. We quote:

Choice Clover, boxes ..... 18@20
White Clover, boxes ..... 16@17
Buckwheat ..... 10@12

HONEY.

Sells readily at from 25c.@30c. ♑ lb.

BEESWAX

Country-dressed Hogs, ♑ lb ..... 7½@8
Heavy corn-fed ..... 6½@7

CANDLES—Are in less request, yet are quoted firm.

COAL—Freight is dull and somewhat nominal. Anthracite is in demand, and is worth $6@6 50 ♑ ton.
COFFEE—Has been in better request at full prices. Sales to-day of 700 bags Laguayra at 11¾c.; 600 bags Rio, part at 11½c.@11¾c.; 100 bags Cuba at 10¾c.
MOLASSES—Is dull and unchanged. We quote Cuba Centrifugals at 30c.@32c.; Muscovado at 25c.@28c.; Sugar-House Drips at 20c.@22c.; and Sugar-House Syrups at 30c.@35c.
MUSTARD—Is in demand, and is worth 25c.@30c. ♑ lb.
NAILS—Are in demand, and are worth $4 50@4 75 ♑ keg.
OILS—Are in demand, and are worth $1 50@1 60 ♑ gallon for Linseed, and $1 75@2 00 ♑ gallon for Lard.
PIG IRON—Is in demand, and is worth $40@42 ♑ ton.
SALTPETRE—Is in demand, and is worth 12½c.@13c. ♑ lb.
SALT—Is in demand, and is worth $2 50@2 75 ♑ sack.
SUGAR—Is in demand, and is worth 9½c.@10c. ♑ lb.
TOBACCO—Is in demand, and is worth 10c.@12c. ♑ lb.
WHISKY—Is in demand, and is worth $1 10@1 12 ♑ gallon.

LEATHER.

Hemlock Sole, Heavy, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Hemlock Sole, Light, A ♑ lb ..... 33@36
Hemlock Sole, Heavy, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Hemlock Sole, Light, B ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Oak Sole, Heavy, A ♑ lb ..... 33@36
Oak Sole, Light, A ♑ lb ..... 36@39
Oak Sole, Heavy, B ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Oak Sole, Light, B ♑ lb ..... 33@36
Upper, Heavy, A ♑ lb ..... 36@39
Upper, Light, A ♑ lb ..... 39@42
Upper, Heavy, B ♑ lb ..... 33@36
Upper, Light, B ♑ lb ..... 36@39
Calf, Heavy, A ♑ lb ..... 1 00@1 10
Calf, Light, A ♑ lb ..... 1 10@1 20
Calf, Heavy, B ♑ lb ..... 90@1 00
Calf, Light, B ♑ lb ..... 1 00@1 10
Kip, Heavy, A ♑ lb ..... 75@80
Kip, Light, A ♑ lb ..... 80@85
Kip, Heavy, B ♑ lb ..... 70@75
Kip, Light, B ♑ lb ..... 75@80
Harness, A ♑ lb ..... 33@36
Harness, B ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Skirting, A ♑ lb ..... 36@39
Skirting, B ♑ lb ..... 33@36
Buff, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Buff, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Pebble, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Pebble, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Rough, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Rough, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Roan, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Roan, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Morocco, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Morocco, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Sheep, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Sheep, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Lining, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Lining, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Kid, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Kid, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30
Goat, A ♑ lb ..... 30@33
Goat, B ♑ lb ..... 27@30

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Jan. 30, 1856.

The supply of Cattle at the Chicago Stock Yards to-day was 1,200 head, and the demand was fair. Prices ruled steady, with sales at $3 50@4 50 ♑ 100 lbs. gross. The receipts of Hogs were 3,000 head, and the demand was active. Prices ruled steady, with sales at $3 50@3 75 ♑ 100 lbs. gross. The receipts of Sheep were 1,000 head, and the demand was fair. Prices ruled steady, with sales at $2 50@3 00 ♑ 100 lbs. gross.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

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The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JAN. 27, 1859.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

The DAILY TIMES is published every morning—Price Two Cents; served at fifty cents a week; mailed, Six Dollars a year.

The SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES—Three Dollars a Year; Two cents, in wrappers, for Foreign Postage; twenty copies to one address for Twenty Dollars. Any person sending us a Club of twenty or more, will be entitled to an extra copy.

Terms—Cash invariably in advance.

All letters to be Addressed to the "New-York Times," New-York City.

Amusements this Evening.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE—Our American Cousin—Ashy Grahgony's Mash.

WALLACK'S THEATRE—The Wreckers, or Florine and Argenie.

NIBLO'S GARDEN—Burke & Co.'s Grand Equestrian Performances.

BURTON'S NEW THEATRE—Lucille As it is—Our Gal—Jack Tarr—Our Female American Cousin.

PURDY'S NATIONAL THEATRE—Othello—Maid Pass.

BOWERY THEATRE—Twin Rose Wm. Tell—Female Minstrels.

BROADWAY THEATRE—Pygmy—Marina.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM—Egyptian Mummies, &c., &c.

WOOD'S MINSTRELS—Negro Minstrelsy.

BALLARD GARDEN—Gen. Wood Parade—Dog Performance.

BROADWAY, NEAR HOUSTON-STREET—Bayard's Equestrian Performances.

Mails Close at the Post-Office.

For Albany, Buffalo and Canada.....3 P. M.
North and West Way Mail.....3 P. M.
Harlem Rail Road Mail.....10½ A. M. and 3 P. M.
Boston and Southeastern Mail.....10½ A. M. and 3 P. M.
Boston and Eastern Mail.....10½ A. M. and 3 P. M.
Mail for Boston, by Steamboat.....3 P. M.

The Overland Mail for California leaves St. Louis every Monday and Thursday, at 9 A. M. Letters designed for it should be marked "Overland, via St. Louis."

The Overland Mail from St. Joseph (Mo.) to Placerville, via Salt Lake City, leaves St. Joseph every Saturday, at 9 A. M. Letters should be marked "Overland, via St. Joseph."

Ocean Mail Steamers.

The European Mails by the *City of Washington*, hence for Liverpool, on Saturday, Jan. 29, will close at the New-York Post-Office at 10½ o'clock of that day.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Neither the *Arago*, due at this port, nor the *Arabia*, due at Halifax, had been heard from at the time of going to press. The weather was reported clear both at Sandy Hook and at Halifax. The *Arago* is now in her fifteenth day, and the *Arabia* in her twelfth.

The proceedings of Congress yesterday were highly interesting. In the Senate, a joint resolution was introduced, and referred to the Committee on Territories, asking for a twenty days' extension of the session of the Legislature of Kansas. Mr. SEWARD made his motion, of which he gave notice on Tuesday, to admit Messrs. LANE and MAGAREY, the contestants of the seats of the Senators from Indiana, to the privileges of the floor during the pendency of the decision on their claims. After an animated discussion the motion was denied, and the matter was ordered to lie on the table. The Pacific Railroad bill was then taken up, and after a rejection of all the pending amendments, and a refusal to lay it on the table, the vote on its final passage was ordered for to-day at 1 o'clock. In the House two bills were reported from the Post-Office Committee, providing for the transportation of the mails from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. An adverse report was made from the Judiciary Committee on the bill, to amend the Court of Claims act so as to permit creditors to sue the Government. The report was referred to the Committee of the Whole. A bill was reported from the Judiciary Committee to punish the forging and counterfeiting of military bounty-land warrants, which was immediately passed. Joint resolutions were reported from the Committee on Agriculture, declaring it the duty of Government to use its influence to procure from foreign Governments a modification of their systems of revenue with regard to tobacco. The resolutions were passed after considerable objection. The Homestead bill was introduced by Mr. KELSEY, of New-York, and referred to the Committee of the Whole. Mr. GROW, of Pennsylvania, gave notice that he should ask for a vote on it to-day. The Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill was then taken up in Committee of the Whole, and considered until the adjournment. The pending amendment was to the effect that no money shall be expended for the support and education of the emigrant Africans of the slaver *Echo*, which amendment was rejected. Mr. CRAWFORD, of Georgia, then offered an amendment, reducing the proposed appropriation of $75,000 to $45,000. A long and very animated debate took place, involving the whole question of Slavery and the Slave-trade, when, finally, the whole clause authorizing the appropriation to enable the President to carry out the contract with the Colonization Society was stricken out. This action, however, does not dispose of the subject, as it still has to be voted on in the House.

The settlement of the Tariff question seems to be just as far off as ever. The House Committee of Ways and Means, having the matter under consideration, are hopelessly divided, and unable to secure a majority for any proposition whatever. The Chairman of the Committee, it is understood, is in close consultation with Secretary COBB and the principal revenue clerks, endeavoring to arrange some scheme on which the refractory members of the Committee can be induced to come to terms.

Dispatches from Minnesota, received at the Indian Office in Washington, state that the Sioux and Yancton Indians, who gave considerable trouble some time ago, are again threatening hostilities. Commissioner DENVER, it is stated, has taken prompt measures to meet any emergencies.

Among the bills introduced in the State Senate, yesterday, was one by Mr. SLOAN, to incorporate the Brooklyn Musical Academy, with a capital of $100,000, to commence operations after the subscriptions have reached $100,000. This looks as though the Brooklyn people were in earnest with regard to their proposed opera house. The bill to regulate the theatres in this City, by prohibiting the admission of boys, when unaccompanied by adults, was passed. In the Assembly, a petition was presented from all the principal property-holders on Canal-street, in this City, against the railroad now in operation there. A petition was presented, numerously signed, for a new Ward in this City, to be formed of portions of the Twelfth and Nineteenth. Adverse reports were made on the bill to abolish the office of School Commissioners; the bill to make a false and extra-judicial oath willful perjury, and the bill to enforce liability as common carriers against express companies. The bill further to prevent frauds on the Canal revenues by forbidding the boat was passed. The bill authorizing the Governor Public to list as Commissioners of Deeds was passed, the amendment extending the power to attorneys having been stricken out. Among the bills introduced was one to allow females to vote and hold office.

The "Compensated Emancipation Convention," called to consider the utility and practicability of Benj. BURRITT's scheme for procuring the emancipation of the Southern slaves by compensating their masters pecuniarily, met at Albany yesterday. Dr. NOTT, President of Union College, presided. Resolutions indorsing Mr. BURRITT's plan, and determining to make an effort to raise the necessary funds, were introduced, but did not receive that unanimous support which the friends of the scheme hoped. Among the speeches made against them was one by Mr. UNDERWOOD, of Virginia, who, while he announced himself a thorough emancipationist, pronounced the plan of compensated emancipation totally impracticable. Mr. UNDERWOOD's speech was received very favorably; and although at an adjourned meeting—at which, however, there were only about a dozen present—the resolutions were adopted, the sense of the Convention is understood to have been decidedly against Mr. BURRITT's scheme. The Convention adjourned *sine die*.

The steam Assembly *New-York*, Captain VON SANTEN, from Bremen, Jan. 8, arrived here yesterday morning. Since the 15th the *New-York* encountered a very rough sea, with contrary gales.

The BURNS' Centenary Festival at the Parker House, in Boston, on Tuesday, appears to have exceeded all others in the number of distinguished Masonic gentlemen who took part in it, as well as in the brilliancy of the poems, songs, speeches, and sentiments which were given, on the occasion. There were speeches from RALPH WALDO EMERSON, GEORGE HILLARD, N. P. WILLIS, the Hon. Mr. HOWE of Nova Scotia, Lord RADSTOCK, and JOSIAH QUINCY, Sr.; and poems by JAMES RUSSELL, who recited both a serious and humorous poem, J. G. WHITTIER, ROGERS, and an original song by W. F. SHILLABER. It is rare that so brilliant an assemblage of genius have been witnessed on either side of the Atlantic. There was another festival at the Revere House, at which were many distinguished [illegible]. Already every town [illegible] and the day seems to have been generally observed [illegible] of the Union to the other.

A sharp piece of swindling speculation in New-Jersey, water lands was developed yesterday through an affidavit made before one of the Police Courts by the leading member of a wholesale dry-goods firm in Warren-street. The land operators—they give their names as JOHN CASEY and WILLIAM SHERWOOD—had an elegant map prepared, showing a populous country village in the centre of their property, and unsold lots and farms awaiting disposal. The whole thing is said to be a gigantic fraud, and large numbers are said to have been duped into exchanging their spare cash for worthless title deeds received at the hands of the parties named. The accused were locked up to await trial.

At an early hour yesterday morning a fire was discovered in the store No. 641 Broadway, occupied by Madam NO YOUNG, dealer in children's embroidered wearing apparel. On bursting the door open it was seen that the fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary—the strong point of evidence being that there were several district fires, some of them a considerable distance apart. Upon searching the premises a carpenter of the repairing corps of the store was found in the cellar, and she was committed by Justice QUACKENBOSS for examination.

The telegraphic operator at Sandy Hook, at 10 o'clock last night, reported a fire on Staten Island, in the direction of Quarantine. Nothing in relation to it was heard in the City.

A complimentary exhibition, in honor of the Seventh Regiment (National Guards) took place at Wood's Gymnasium, in Twenty-eighth-street, near Fifth-avenue, last evening. Lieutenant-Colonel MANSFIELD LEFFERTS delivered an address, and the members of the institution performed feats of strength and agility, which drew forth frequent plaudits from the spectators.

At the meeting of the Commissioners of Emigration yesterday there was no business of special importance transacted. Eight hundred and four emigrants arrived at this port during the week ending Jan. 26, making a total of 2,037 since the beginning of the year, against 2,305 during the same period in 1858.

The Rev. Dr. R. D. HITCHCOCK lectured last evening in the Rutgers-street Church, the Rev. Dr. KALLOCH's, on the Human Races in America.

Cotton was purchased yesterday to the extent of 1,500 bales at steady prices. A brisk inquiry prevailed for Flour, Pork, Cut Meats and Lard at improved prices. Grain, Naval Stores, Hides, Seeds, Hay, Hemp, and Hops were quiet. Sugars, Molasses, Coffee, Linseed Oil and Rice were in good request. Freights were inactive, with 553 vessels of all classes in port.

At the Cattle markets, yesterday, there was a partial recovery of the large fall in prices occurring on the previous general market day—the decline last week being 1@1½c. ₩ lb., of which above ½@ ¾c. was regained yesterday. The total city receipts for the week ending yesterday, amounted to only 2,840 bullocks, against 3,913 the previous week, and a weekly average for all last year of 3,676. Large purchases were made by butchers under the influence of low rates and cool weather last week, so that their wants were easily met, and even the short supply this week more than filled the demand, and some two hundred bullocks were left unsold last evening.

The Isthmus Transit Routes.

It is not easy to understand why our Government has so much difficulty in settling the question of a route across the Isthmus. That we need a route there, for the sake of access to our possessions on the Pacific Coast, and that this route should be speedy, safe and protected from interruption, every one concedes, and none more readily than the commercial powers of Europe. As an original question, the States of the Isthmus have probably a right to grant or withhold the right of transit:—at all events, if that attribute of sovereignty is limited in their case, it is only on account of the overruling necessities of the commerce of the world. But this is a point of only speculative interest, inasmuch as the Governments concerned have in explicit terms granted that right, and specified the only mode in which the interest thus created can be impaired or revoked. All that our Government has to do is to insist upon the fulfillment of this grant, and not permit the rights which it involves to be made the plaything of rival factions or of contending companies. Gen. CASS, in his letter of July 25 to Mr. LAMAR, distinctly declared the intention of this Government to protect the franchises which had thus been granted to American citizens in trust and for the benefit of the American people. If the promise of this letter were fulfilled, we need not have recourse to the Monroe doctrine, or take any other position which should offend the pride or menace the interests of foreign Powers.

There has been a good deal of flippant and loose comment upon what is generally known as the White grant, and in many quarters it has been assumed that it has expired and is no longer of binding force. The facts of the case, however, in our judgment scarcely sustain this assumption. It is a matter of record that in the year 1849 the Government of Nicaragua granted to this Company, which was to consist of American citizens, the right of constructing a ship canal of given dimensions across the territory of that State, taking care moreover to provide in the contract that, if a canal of the dimensions required could not be constructed, the Company *should* establish a railroad and water communication, on the same terms and conditions and within the period fixed for the construction of the canal, the period allowed for such construction being 12 years from the 22d September, 1849. This Company, in the year 1850, employed a corps of competent engineers, at the head of whom was Colonel O. W. CHILDS, Chief Engineer of the State of New-York, to make the necessary surveys, who, after being engaged on the Isthmus for a period of 18 months, made a voluminous report showing the feasibility of a canal, but one of much less depth than that required by the terms of the grant. There was, therefore, no alternative left the Company but the construction of a railroad and water communication instead of a canal between the two oceans.

On the 19th June, 1857, another convention was entered into between the State and the Company, amendatory of the grant of 1849, in which the State of Nicaragua *recognized and reaffirmed* the primary grant, admitted the impossibility of constructing a *canal* such as is therein required, dispensed with the construction thereof, and required the Company to establish as a substitute therefor a railroad and water communication within two years from the ratification of that convention by the proper authorities of Nicaragua. That authority—namely, the Constituent Assembly—*ratified this contract on the 14th November*, 1857. Thus it will be seen that American citizens *acquired* from the Government of Nicaragua the right of transit across her territories as early as the year 1849, which right they have held from that day to this, and which, by the terms of their grant, they are to continue to hold for a period of 99 years.

This grant, both in its original form and as amended, is virtually made to the people of the United States, who are the real beneficiaries under it. The nominal grantees are trustees, who are to construct and maintain the work at their own expense, and transport across it the people and products of the United States at the lowest possible rates. This is the oldest existing grant of the Nicaraguan Government; and it has never been revoked nor forfeited. Why, then, should not our Government, by insisting upon its fulfillment, obviate all its destroy, and all the commerce of the world needs, without any violation of international law, any assertion of doubtful powers, or any direct or secret countenance to the lawless and barbarous designs of reckless adventurers? And if the Executive lacks authority to insist upon the fulfillment of this grant, why should not Congress promptly supply the defect by needful legislation?

As we have already stated, this is the oldest existing grant made by the Government of Nicaragua. Indeed, but one other has ever been made, and that was with M. FELIX BELLY, and dated the 26th day of April last, the vitality of which is conditioned on the non-performance by the American, Atlantic and Pacific Ship Canal Company of the terms of their contract made in 1849. The Belly contract is not likely therefore to stand in the way of American rights and American control over the Isthmus, unless the Government fail in the performance of its duty in the premises. Should the American contract of 1849 become voidable, because of the failure to perform its stipulations, the contract of M. BELLY, being next in date, would *become absolute*, and the Isthmus of Nicaragua would pass under French control, unless we should interfere forcibly to prevent such a result. *The right of Nicaragua to cede the privilege of transit across her Territory, when such cession does not conflict with rights previously granted, admits of no dispute.* The present Administration, in the letter of Gen. CASS to Gen. LAMAR, already referred to, admits such right, and avows a determination on the part of the President not to interfere with its exercise. Well knowing, therefore, as the Administration must know, that, if the grant made in 1849 to American citizens shall, because of a failure on their part to protect the grantees, become void, the Belly contract would become valid and binding, they will be responsible for a voluntary abandonment of this American franchise and a tacit surrender of it to the French Government.

We know well the influences that have been brought to bear on this Administration by rival companies and their hosts of stock-owners to prevent a plain and prompt discharge of the duty of protecting the grantees of the Government of Nicaragua. From them, however, since they need in their own cases the same governmental protection which they deprecate in this, there is but little to be feared. What we have most to apprehend is from French interference in Nicaraguan affairs. For we have very strong reasons for stating, what we shall be prepared to maintain if disputed, that the contract of M. BELLY with the Government of Nicaragua was the result of a conference with the French Emperor, and was procured with his privity, knowledge and consent; and that the mission of M. BELLY to Central America, and the course that he pursued after his arrival there, were undertaken and carried on with the full approbation of the Emperor, and that the disclaimers of Count WALEWSKI to Mr. MASON and M. SARTIGES to General CASS were intended only to conceal the fact and deceive our Government.

In what we have said upon this subject we do not wish to be understood as advocating the claims of any mere Company, as such. We desire only that an inter-oceanic communication shall be permanently secured to the citizens of this Government, free from all interruption or control whatsoever on the part of any other Government or Governments. This is demanded by the necessities of our territorial possessions, and we see no mode of accomplishing it but by a prompt protection of all the rights acquired by contracts with the Governments of New-Granada, Nicaragua and Mexico. From the feeling of hostility daily manifested by those Governments towards the people, Government and institutions of this country, it is worse than idle to hope for the acquirement of any new transit-privileges, should those now subsisting be abandoned, or otherwise lost. According to our view of the question, therefore, no alternative remains to us. The rights we have we must hold. Our right to hold them cannot be denied or doubted; and if to preserve and protect them, the President requires the aid of legislation, let him have it without delay, taking care, however, to guard the extraordinary power thus conferred against abuse or perversion.

The Cuban Folly.

Nine-tenths of Mr. SLIDELL's Report on Cuba, which we publish this morning, is thrown away. It demonstrates what is universally conceded—what Mr. SEWARD himself does not deny,—namely, that Cuba ought to belong, and sooner or later will belong, to the United States. Upon this point there is very little difference of opinion among the people of the whole country. If the question were an open one, and could now be decided upon its merits by a popular vote, we have very little doubt that *four fifths* of the people of the United States would be in favor of the peaceful acquisition of Cuba.

Nor would the existence of Slavery there make any substantial difference. Cuba will not be rejected, whenever a *bona fide* offer is made, on this account. Her accession would undoubtedly add one or two more Slave States to the Union,—but the Free States have got over their alarm about being overgrown or overborne in future accessions, and would scarcely give to this consideration a controlling weight against Cuba. The prospect of ending the Slave-trade, and of introducing into other States the meliorations of slave law which exist in Cuba, would more than counterbalance the objections to adding another Slave State, under such circumstances, to the Confederacy.

But the question of annexing Cuba is not before the country. The pending bill does not provide for annexation. Mr. SLIDELL was not required to discuss or consider that subject. The issue raised by the Administration and to be forced upon the political parties of the country, does not turn in any degree upon the desirableness of the acquisition of Cuba. It is simply whether *thirty millions of dollars* shall be put into the President's hands, to be paid upon *his* concluding a treaty with Spain,—whether that treaty shall command the assent of the Senate and the country or not. It is a vote of unlimited confidence and unchecked authority in the President. We venture to say that no Congress that has ever before existed would place such an amount of money in the hands of any President we have ever had, without knowing what he would do with it. WASHINGTON never could have obtained such a grant. The sums granted as secret-service money in the purchase of Louisiana and Florida, and for the conclusion of peace with Mexico, were insignificant and paltry in comparison with this enormous amount.

Mr. SLIDELL makes light of the unanimous declaration of the Spanish Cortes that they will not consent to the sale of Cuba,—and of the resolute hostility of the people of Cuba themselves to being thus transferred. He holds out vague intimations that these sentiments may change,—that a revolution or a coup d'état may upset the existing rulers of Spain,—or that the ruling dynasty may find itself in such an extremity that nothing but the immediate possession of a large sum of money will prevent its expulsion. Are we to seek in these vague hints for indications of the manner in which this thirty millions is to be expended? *Is it to be used to bribe officials at the Spanish Court or in the Island of Cuba?* Is it to be given in aid of revolutionary movements against the Spanish Government—or to prop up a falling dynasty against such movements that may be in contemplation? Mr. SLIDELL boasts that the age of secret diplomacy is past,—that now everything is open to popular knowledge and public inspection,—and that whatever is done in international affairs must be done openly and in full view of all the world. How is this boast vindicated by his proposition?

This question, it seems, is to be made a political issue. The line of division will not be between those who favor and, those who oppose, the acquisition of Cuba. That question is not yet ripe for political controversy. We have no chance of making the purchase now. We have every reason which can have weight with men of sound judgment, for believing that Spain is not inclined to sell. Whenever she may manifest a willingness to do so, it will be quite time enough either to bear her terms, or make an offer. But at present the proposition is simply to incur an enormous National Debt for the sake of enabling the President to *talk about* buying Cuba. Those who anticipate popularity from such a movement will find, in due time, how greatly they underrate the intelligence of the people.

PRESIDENT BUCHANAN'S MATRIMONIAL PROSPECTS.—The *Journal of Commerce* is greatly alarmed at the intimation given by our Washington correspondent that President BUCHANAN had designs of annexing a fair Georgia widow to his household, and making her in fact the mistress of the White House. The *Journal* says:

"Upon one thing we must insist. The Georgia widow must postpone her intentions, or at least their realization, until the 4th of March, 1861. The public interests must not be allowed to suffer through any matrimonial undertakings. There must be no neglect of the public business to engage in such private and personal affairs."

Our correspondent was not guilty of the indelicacy of saying that the Georgia lady had any "intentions" in the matter. The intentions were all supposed to be on the side of the President; and so far from the public interest being in any manner endangered by the President's engaging in so humanizing and altogether proper an undertaking as that of a matrimonial engagement, we think it would be in the highest degree beneficial to the country. We should, for our own part, be rejoiced to see Mr. BUCHANAN enter upon at least one course of conduct while he is in the Presidency, which would meet the approbation of all parties and all sections. It was a most dangerous experiment to elect a bachelor to the Presidency; for, being freed from the cares of domestic life, and wanting the solaces of the fireside and the nursery, he would be more likely to become dissatisfied with himself and "the rest of mankind," and be prone to mischief of some kind or other merely to keep himself busy. A bride in the White House would impart new life to Washington society, and divert the President's thoughts from Cuba, and a good many other things which have not only given him a good deal of trouble, but have put the nation to a good deal of expense. If Mr. BUCHANAN should carry out his intentions towards the Georgia widow, we shall be decidedly in favor of Congress voting him a handsome outfit, and the lady a fitting *trousseau*. But this is too delicate a subject for newspaper discussion. We only intended to express our dissent from the opinion of the President's friends of the *Journal*, that his entering into a matrimonial engagement would be to the injury of the country.

CAPTAIN MAURY HELD TO BAIL.—Does any one, not familiar with modern heroes, ask "Who *is* Capt. MAURY?" we will vouchsafe the information that Capt. MAURY was the Commander of the bark *Susan*, which recently left Mobile with a load of fillibusters, and perished ignominously on a coral reef near the Belize. The history of that melancholy Expedition must be fresh in the minds of all readers. How the *Susan* stole away from Mobile; how she carried off a United States officer; how she evaded pursuit and cunningly bore away for Honduras; how it was her fortune to be wrecked; and, finally, how that good-natured Englishman, Gov. SEYMOUR, sent back the battered fillibusters to the port from which they started;—are not all these facts recorded in the newspapers? Great were the rejoicings at Mobile over the *Susan's* passengers rescued from a watery grave, if not from a heupen elevation, and for a time Captain MAURY, as their chieftain, had reason to fancy himself quite popular. But a change has come over the spirit of his dream. That meddlesome body, the Grand Jury, have taken hold of him. He has been indicted and held to bail in the uncomfortable sum of $2,500 to appear at the Court in February. Sundry of his companions in glory share his fate and his bonds. The Captain will begin to see the difference between himself and a successful violator of law. Coming back the rescued guest of an Englishman, on a British ship, his *prestige* is poor enough. He finds himself in no position to dazzle the public and overcome juries. The grand inquest made no bones of indicting him. And now, instead of ranging over conquered provinces in Central America, he must appear before the United States District Court to answer as a criminal for deeds which he hoped would render him illustrious. Such is life.

PARTIES AS WITNESSES.—A correspondent of the Albany *Atlas and Argus* offers as an argument in favor of the repeal of the law permitting parties to be sworn as witnesses in their own behalf, the fact that "the law was voted for by several members of the Legislature who did not know what they were voting for." We have no doubt that such was the case; but the same argument will apply with equal force on the other side. No doubt several members voted *against* the bill who were quite as ignorant of what they were doing. There must be a fearful amount of such voting on all bills, and to repeal a law on such grounds would only tend to make legislating still more careless and unconsidered than it is now. It is simply a gross neglect of duty on the part of legislators to vote on any question without having first put themselves to the trouble of ascertaining its merits; and when they vote ignorantly and carelessly, their constituents must bear the consequences, until an opportunity offers for rectifying the blunders of their representatives.

A SUGGESTION.—The Albany *Atlas and Argus* advocates the purchase of Cuba in order that we may have "cheap sugar." Suppose we abolish the duty on sugar, will not that produce the same result, and at much less expense? A hundred millions of dollars is a large sum to pay for what a trifling alteration in the tariff will give us.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE SEVENTH REGIMENT.—The encampment of regiments on the Grove-Ground, on the East Twenty-seventh-street, between Fourth and Fifth-avenues, for exhibition last evening in honor of the Seventh Regiment, (National Guard,) to which many of the friends of the Corps had been invited. That portion of the Ground which was not kept apart for spectators was crowded by an immense assemblage, many of whom were military men. Gen. HALL, Gen. VANDERPOEL, and many officers and men of the Seventh Regiment were there. An excellent band furnished the music, Lieut.-Col. MANSFIELD LEFFERTS did the marching, and twenty stalwart young men exhibited the muscle of the occasion. Lieut.-Col. LEFFERTS' address was brief, but full of marrow. He alluded to the [illegible] of the Seventh Regiment, and to the [illegible] their members, and urged other [illegible] to [illegible] the example. Those engaged in the performance of feats of strength and agility by members of the institution. Mr. GROVER lifted a dumb bell weighing one hundred pounds, upwards from a point opposite his shoulder to a point on arm's length above it, six times in succession; Mr. ADAMS, H. BRADY excelled in performances on the peg-pole; the double Trapeze was Mr. HARPER's forte; Messrs. BOGERT and EVERS, in the giant swing, received much excited applause; and Mr. GEORGE A. RAY did many things which required the exhibition of great strength, agility and fearlessness, particularly in all which, with the flaming torches, he performed. The Reception Committee, Private HAIN of Company A, the Reception Committee, Private HAIN of Company A, the entertainment, everything passed off pleasantly.

A PUBLIC NUISANCE.—Doctor A. K. GARDNER has sent a memorial to the Mayor and Common Council, urging upon their attention the necessity for the public health, of having fountains or hydrants erected, with drinking cups attached, for the convenience of street passengers. With the Croton flowing through every street and avenue in the City, there is yet not a single public fountain at which a stranger can quench his thirst, and the consequence is that thousands of men, and women too, are compelled to resort to drinking saloons and bar-rooms, where they must take "a little something" for the sake of a glass of water. The luxury of drinking fountains operate with peculiar hardship on women and children, who when away from home, can find no place where they can obtain a drink of water. In the lower parts of the City, where shops are abundant, the evil is not so great; but, on Sundays, when the shops are all closed, or in the uptown streets where there are no saloons, there must be much positive suffering for the lack of water. The cost of these public conveniences would be very trifling, and their benefit, both in a sanitary and moral point of view, would be incalculably great. When the Croton was first introduced into our streets, the title was immediately applied to New-York, of "The City of Fountains," but our fountains are so few and far between that they hardly entitle us to such a grand appellation, and there is not one of them all that has a drinking cup attached to it for the use of the public. These drinking fountains would make but a very trifling demand upon the Croton Reservoir, and they might be made to add greatly to the beauty and attractions of our principal streets.

COMMISSIONERS OF EMIGRATION.—The Board met yesterday afternoon, Mr. PURDY in the Chair. A communication was received from the British Consul, Mr. Archibald, inclosing a dispatch from Mr. Hammond with reference to the frauds practised on emigrants to this country, by passage and inland ticket brokers at Liverpool. Mr. Archibald inclosed his bill of Exchange for £37 on the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, which amount was to be refunded to the defrauded parties. A vote of thanks was returned him for his prompt action, and two other cases of frauds on passengers who came by the ship *Dread*, assigned were referred to him. The last named parties were Robert Cowan and Robert McGhie, who purchased tickets of G. V. Oenthaffer at Liverpool, for passage from New-York to Toronto. From the weekly statement it appears that the total number of emigrants arrived to Jan. 25 is 2,037, 504 of whom arrived during the week preceding that date. The number of inmates in the institutions on Ward's Island is 1,152, and in the Marine Hospital 85, making a total of 1,300. The balance of the Commutation Fund on hand is $6,599 97. The building in Worth-street, which has been occupied for some time by the Commissioners, is about to be demolished, and they will be obliged to look out for other accommodations.

EXPERIMENTS WITH ONE OF THE STEAM FIRE ENGINES.—Last evening the "John G. Stone," (to be called the "C. V. Anderson,") one of the "steam squirts," owned by the City, had a trial in the Park, to see if her machinery was in proper trim, under the direction of ZEBAH MILLS, Esq., Foreman of the Exempt Engine Company. The engine worked very finely, and her performances elicited general commendation. She threw two streams through an 1¼ inch nozzle about 100 feet; one stream 2 inch nozzle, 120 feet, and through a 2¾ inch, open bolt, about 160 feet. A comparison was made between India-rubber and hempen hose, which resulted in a preference for the India-rubber hose, as the bore is smooth and offers less friction than the hempen hose. The streams were solid, and on a large fire would tell with great effect. There are steam fire engines now building at the Novelty Works; one for No. 3 Engine of this City, to weigh 5,000 pounds, and to be drawn by hand; and the others for Brooklyn and Philadelphia, to be self-propellers, weighing from 10,000 to 12,000 pounds. The patentee of these engines intend to make a contract for a steam-engine to be drawn by hand, to weigh 2,500 pounds, and to guarantee that it shall beat the Hope Engine of Philadelphia.

TAKE IN THAT BOX, SIR—FIRE SIR!—The very general obstruction of our streets with boxes, bales, ditt, astes and other articles more or less disagreeable to come in contact with, and the general failure of the Police to enforce the City ordinances in relation to street obstructions, has at length attracted the attention of the Association of Taxpayers, and they are now laboring to obtain an abatement of the nuisance. They ask that the ordinances upon the subject be so amended that the fines for their violation shall be made to accrue to the fund for the Widows and Orphans of Policemen killed in the discharge of their duties. An amendment, which they think would induce the Police to do the duty which for their failure to do they now receive $100 a year. If any one is to be bribed to do his duty in the matter, it would probably be more effective to offer the temptation to the proper prosecuting officer; as there can be no doubt that his failure to prosecute those heretofore reported by the Police, has had much to do with the falling off in the number of reports against parties for obstructing the streets.

WHO CAN REMIT TAXES?—The communication of the Mayor sent to the Board of Supervisors, and noticed a few days ago, with the opinion of the Corporation Counsel, to the effect that the Board of Supervisors alone have the power to remit taxes, is creating considerable interest among property owners. The Board of Aldermen has acted, upon application for the remission of taxes, heretofore, and thus many thousands of dollars have been remitted—illegally, as is now believed. The management of the City taxes has, as has lately been shown in authorized reports, been very bad—in a multitude of cases criminally bad. The entire business seems to be in a state of confusion, which the recent discovery of the illegal action of the Board of Aldermen is not likely to improve.

SEIZURE OF GUNPOWDER.—The Police of the Nineteenth Ward seized a large quantity of gunpowder last evening, which was stored on board of a canal boat, lying at the foot of Forty-seventh-street, East River, in violation of an ordinance which provides that all vessels or barges loaded with powder shall anchor in the stream. Fifty kegs of the dangerous cargo were taken away in carts and stored in the magazine of the old up-town arsenal, and a large quantity was left on board the boat. A number of Police Officers were detailed to guard it during last night. By the provisions of the ordinance which forbids vessels stored with powder lying at any of the piers, the powder is confiscated for the benefit of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the New-York Fire Department.

DEFICIENCY OF GAS LIGHT.—Not a small share of the accidents occurring nightly in the City can be traced to deficiency of gas light. At a late hour Tuesday evening Mr. JOHN FARRAY was passing up Tenth-avenue, when he stumbled into the front area of the paper factory corner of Forty-second-street. He was unable to rescue himself and lay some time when a policeman fortunately heard his moans, and assisted in conveying him to his residence corner of Forty-ninth-street and Eleventh-avenue. His recovery from his injuries is deemed very doubtful. He says that the accident would not have occurred had the gas lamps in the neighborhood been properly lighted.

NEWSBOYS TURNING FARMERS.—A large and respectable-looking company of boys, numbering about sixty, left the City for the West yesterday afternoon, under the charge of Messrs. C. L. O'CONNOR and H. FERNOSS, agents of the Children's Aid Society. In the second were a number of newsboys from the Lodging-house, who, weary of their cheerless existence in the City, have come to the resolution of turning farmers' boys, and making themselves useful in a new home in the West. Another company of twenty left for homes in the country under the charge of Mr. CHARLES ADAMS.

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—In consequence of the large attendance at the meetings of this adjunct of the Mechanics' Institute, PROFS. COOPER has generously granted the Society the use of the large upper hall of the Cooper Institute, which they will inaugurate this evening. Subject—Electro-Magnetism as a Motor. Two practical Magnetic engines will be exhibited. A lecture will be delivered by Prof. VERMILYE.

CHEAP LECTURES IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Arrangements have been completed to open the Academy of Music, once a week, for a lecture, by some distinguished and competent person, on Literature, Art, or Science, to spread the acquaintance of knowledge before the people, and at a price within the means of all. The Man in a capital one, and if

WHOLESALE BURGLARY AND ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION IN THIRTY LIVES!—Two men, named JAMES KEARNEY, have been arrested charged with the following startling crimes. The first-named is a stevedore, and the other is a ship-carpenter. They have been in the habit of working together for some time past, and on the night of the 19th inst. they broke into the store of Messrs. ROBERTS & CO., corner of Broad and Pine-streets, and carried off a large quantity of goods. They were seen by a watchman, who gave the alarm, and they were pursued by a number of persons, and were finally captured in a house in Pine-street. They were taken to the Station-house in Ludlow-street, and locked up. On the following morning, when they were taken before the Police Justice, they were identified by the watchman as the burglars, and were committed for trial. Some of the property was found in their possession. They were also identified by the proprietor of the store, Mr. ROBERTS, and by Mr. JAMES KEARNEY, of Broad-street, as the men who had entered the store of the latter gentleman, on the night of the 19th inst., and carried off a large quantity of goods. The prisoners were then taken before Justice WOOD, at the Tombs, and

READ THE LEADER IS OVERFLOWING WITH GOOD THINGS.

NEW EXPRESS ARRANGEMENT
via
CHICAGO AND THE NORTHWEST.
The ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY have completed arrangements for a NEW AND DIRECT EXPRESS from NEW YORK and the EAST to CHICAGO and the NORTHWEST, via the NEW YORK CENTRAL RAILROAD.
HUDSON.
Albany, Jan. 1, 1866.

HUDSON'S ACCORDEON.
A hundred and fifty years ago, Dr. Boyle, in his "Experimental Philosophy," said: "I am surprised that the discovery of the accordeon, or some other instrument of the like nature, has not been made by the ancients." Within my knowledge, discoveries similar to those of the accordeon have been made by at least a dozen persons, who, in their ignorance of the existence of the accordeon, could not avail themselves of the benefit of my experience. I have, therefore, no hesitation in saying that the accordeon is entirely the product of my contrivance.
CHRISTADORO, No. 9 Astor House.

Beecher's Hair Dye. Wigs and Toupees.
Beecher's Hair Dye is the best article ever used. It has the best colors. BEECHER'S Wigs and Toupees are the most natural and durable. Factory, No. 197 Fulton-st., Brooklyn. Depot, No. 5 Astor House, New York.

Prof. J. C. Lewis's reports in the Times fully establish the superiority of his Hair Restorative over all others. Depot, No. 277 Canal-st., New York. Sold by druggists. Office of medical and cabinet of patent rights. Circular sent free. Agents wanting rights should call or write this office.

Piano's Celebrated Iron Plate or Overstrung Pianos.
Are tested the year by purchasing one of GROVER & BAKER'S SEWING MACHINES will be placed free of charge in your room. GROVER & BAKER SEWING MACHINE CO., No. 495 Broadway.

Wanted, by Miss Mary Bedford, Orphan Asylum, Utica, N. Y., a number of GROVER & BAKER'S SEWING MACHINES, on easy terms. Call on or address, Miss MARY BEDFORD, Utica, N. Y.

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MARRIED.

McGowan—Jones.—In this City, on Thursday, Jan. 4, by the Rev. Dr. Cheever, Mr. ALEXANDER McGOWAN to Miss ELIZABETH JONES, daughter of the late Thomas Jones.

Rogers—Bowne.—In Brooklyn, on Thursday, Jan. 4, by the Rev. Dr. Cheever, Mr. HENRY ROGERS to Miss ELIZABETH BOWNE, daughter of the late Samuel Bowne.

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DIED.

Bell—In Jamaica, Wednesday, Jan. 3, Mrs. ELIZABETH BELL, widow of the late Andrew Bell, Esq., of Jamaica, L. I., in the 84th year of her age.

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GOOD NEWS FOR THE LADIES.
THE LADIES' MANUAL
OF
FANCY WORK;
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Mr. Beasley's new Quarterly Review will, it is announced, certainly appear with the magazines in January. The subscription is, however, now at the publishers', No. 25 Park Row, New York, and the publication of this monthly has naturally caused the delay which has taken place.

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ENHANCED PRICE OF SLAVES IN BRAZIL.—One cause of the dissatisfaction now prevailing between the Rubim combination and the Directors of certain lines of railway in Brazil is the course of construction which the latter have adopted in regard to the lines over which they control. This has altogether been contrary to the wishes of the Rubim party, who have been very anxious to have the railways pushed on with as much haste as possible, in order that the increased value of slaves consequent upon the opening up of fresh districts for coffee cultivation, &c., may be realized. The Directors, however, have not been disposed to act in accordance with these views, and have preferred to proceed with caution, and to make sure of every step as they went on. Hence the dissatisfaction which has been manifested by the Rubim party, and which has led to the present crisis. The Rubim party, it is said, are determined to have the railways pushed on with all possible speed, and will not be satisfied with anything else. Under the circumstances, it is probable that the Directors will be compelled to yield to the wishes of the Rubim party, or else resign their offices. The latter course is considered the more probable one.—Brazil Mail.

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AFFAIRS AT ALBANY.

The Canal-Commissioner's Report—Business of the Legislature—Closing Up Business—The Court of the Session—Assembly Special Term, &c.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ALBANY, Tuesday, Jan. 25, 1853.

The snow-fall that came up by the Hudson River Railroad from New-York yesterday differs little, slightly and intelligent lawyers of the County of the day, and opinions of the 8 year hereafter, the gay night of sparkling parties on Friday, of sleigh of girls and boys coming on the boys and women, and of sometimes Broadway, the Metropolitan Hotel, the Astor House, and the Irving House, the Stevens House, the Delmonico, the Metropolitan, the Union Hotel, the Everett House, the Clarendon, the Wood, or about Union Square, and Grand, Canal, Chambers, Fulton, Bleecker, Houston, and Washington streets, both Houses met at 11 o'clock, very tired to work, and, though many complained of being sleepy after the fatigue of a day's business, they all set to work with zeal, and accomplished a good deal—but not of very important business. Some little matter of interest to New-Yorkers was the notice by Mr. Bell of a bill to amend the law relating to the Marine Court of New-York, which was prepared by the Committee of the Whole, and will be introduced into the Senate. Mr. Bell will be in charge of the bill in the Assembly, the Speaker appointed on the Committee to look after the interests of the Assembly, Messrs. Cheeseman, of New-York, Mr. Bell, of Monroe, and Mr. Law, of Delaware; a most excellent, competent or gentlemanly Committee as could have been selected. They expect to spend about a week in your City, and there is a good deal of curiosity to know whether they will find only a single vote for the Canal Commissioners, or the six millions of canals which the canals depot for their enlargement. A good deal of legislation hangs by the Committee's success. Mr. Germain gave notice of a bill to repeal the bill appointing Commissioners of Records in New-York City. Mr. Bennett's effort to raise a select Committee to look up their progress, miscarrying. A committee from the Commissioners named, in reply to a resolution of inquiry by the House, was moved for by evening—and that they be requested to answer more fully within five days. But the resolution provoking debate was laid over. Upon this subject Mr. Cozzens said that when this examination was instituted, it was said their duties could be discharged at an expense of not more than $20,000. They have already entered upon contracts involving an outlay of $600,000. One of the persons by which this large liability had been incurred, was by paying $10 for what responsible men were ready to do for less than $5. He did not desire to increase these expenditures by raising a special committee, when all that was needed could be obtained from the Commissioners by communications. If they would properly answer the resolution which had been sent to them.

More inquiries as to salaries are coming. Mr. Cozzens moved a resolution, as follows; it was laid over, but will be up very soon again:

Resolved, That the Auditor of the Canal Department be requested to report forthwith to this House the amount of the salaries and emoluments of all the officers, clerks and agents of every kind, employed either by the Canal Department or any of the canals of this State, payable by warrant through his office, or in any other manner, from the revenues of the canals, on the 30th day of September, 1846, 1850, respectively, so as to show the increase of the compensation of each officer, clerk or agent at the above-named periods. Also, what offices, clerkships or appointments, if any, have been created either in the Canal Department, or on any of the canals of this State, with the date of such creation, since the 30th day of September, 1846, and the salaries or emoluments chargeable upon the canal revenues in consequence thereof.

The bill repealing the act of last Winter, allowing parties in suits to act as witnesses, was taken into Committee of the Whole, but the friends of the repeal dare not risk a vote yet, and had progress reported on it. About 10 o'clock both Houses adjourned.

To-day the Senate made some little progress toward the adjustment of the State's claim of $30,000 upon the Bank of New-Orleans, and still less toward the passage of the act amendatory of the General Insurance law. The bill relative to Minors attending the New-York Theatres without Guardians was ordered to its third reading.

In Assembly to-day there was the unabated stream of petitions for the relief of gas-consumers, and for, and especially against, the removal of steam from Atlantic-street. Nearly three hours were then spent in the deliberate consideration of bills in Committee of the Whole. One of these provoked a good deal of discussion; it was a bill giving to Notaries Public the power to perform all the duties now required of Commissioners of Deeds, and making all lawyers who choose simply to take an oath Commissioners of Deeds. Most of the lawyers urged this, while most laymen objected. The office of Commissioner of Deeds, they said, was sufficiently degraced now by the stupidity with which Common Councils awarded it to pot-house favorites—they could not consent to make it any less honorable by opening it to all lawyers who chose to go in. Finally the laymen had it, and the bill as reported to the House was defeated by a large majority. The Committee of the Whole rose, reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

The Quarantine Commissioners nominated by the Governor will no doubt be confirmed to-morrow. Until after which confirmation, probably no new Quarantine measure will be moved.

The Atlantic-street Steam Removal bill has not yet been reported. It has been very much amended since its first publication, but the right or wrong of the removal still remains to be settled. The friends of the bill, however, say that this is not so; that the case is simply one of anyhow that the Long Island Railroad Company already have the right to remove it; that all the Legislature has now to do with it is to decide whether $155,500 of the sum to be paid the Long Island Company shall be equitably assessed upon the district most to be benefited by the removal, or the whole sum raised by voluntary loans to the same corporators, which future legislatures must make good to those who advance the money. The opponents of removal still complain that the bill provides the commissioner to a company of a most valuable franchise—the right to run just such a railroad through Atlantic-street as it shall desire, without so much as saying to the Common Council of Brooklyn, "By your leave, gentlemen;" the Common Council can have no right under the bill to fix the fare, determine the kind of rail, insure accommodation, or even keep off steam, for the 50 years that the lease of the Jamaica Railroad to the Long Island road has yet to run. The terms of the contract may take care of all this, but by the bill the Brooklyn Common Council has no longer any voice in the matter. It is a vexed question, but it does not much vex GLAUCUS.

Council Commissioner's Report—New Business—For the Punishment of Defaulters—A Railroad for Nassau-street—The New-York Athenæum—Fine Openings for Assignees—Compensation of Lieutenant-Governors, &c., &c.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ALBANY, Wednesday, Jan. 26, 1853.

Canal-Commissioner RUGGLES sent in his report, also signed by Commissioner SWARTS, this morning. Of course it is a document of great ability, in which every point is carefully fortified. As is the case with everything from his pen, his ideas are a very tight fit for his words. He holds that the Legislature, as last year, by providing for the payment of interest, authorized the Canal Commissioners' drafts. That, too, it encouraged the prosecution of the work of enlargement which the Canal Board further authorized. Moreover, the Supreme Court in two cases issued peremptory mandamus compelling the Commissioners to give their drafts, and the course adopted by the Commissioners he hesitate to be wise and proper. The Report urges the additional feet of excavation to give a channel to the canal of seven feet depth, which, it says, can be cheaply and early obtained. It then proceeds to refute the conclusion of the Comptroller's Report, which placed the responsibility for the present difficulties on the Legislature of 1846. It was the Legislatures of 1825-6 that diverted from the surplus revenues $400,000 annually, as a "loan for the use of the General Fund," upon which loan not a cent of either interest or principal has ever been paid—this loan aggregates at the present time $6,622,616; moreover, the amount expended since 1825 in building lateral canals which have not repaid their cost, nor even paid for their own repairs, is to be added. The revenues for the twenty-three (23) years have been $39,700,646. The diversions from canal revenues for the general fund, general fund debt, lateral canals and interest, account to $16,587,-684. Thus of the revenues only four millions have been left for the Canal Enlargement. With a recurrence of the history of the enlargement for the future business of the canals, made by the Committee of Ways and Means of 1826, and with some bold prophecies as to the future of our inland commerce, Mr. RUGGLES concludes his report.

In Executive session, the Senate to-day confirmed the nomination of John C. Green, of Staten Island; Ex-Governor Seymour and Lieut.-Governor Parmelee as Commissioners of Quarantine. They have so many high honors been—will they accept? Of Notaries Public the only ones from your way yet confirmed are J. H. Haines Pinckney, W. R. V. Jones, Wm. H. Brown, Chas. H. De Cevrac, R. G. Stevens, and Andrew E. Cozzens, of Brooklyn. A large batch was sent in to-day, which he over of course till next Executive session day. The act giving Notaries all the powers and privileges that Commissioners of Deeds now have, passed the House to-day—and the

[illegible] bill to [illegible] passed the House [illegible] bill to [illegible] passed the House [illegible] bill to [illegible] passed the House [